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# STAFF NOTES:

## **Western Europe Canada International Organizations**

State Dept. review  
completed

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**WESTERN EUROPE — CANADA — INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

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PLO Presence in London Protested

The attendance of four observers from the Palestine Liberation Organization at the London meeting of the International Parliamentary Union (IPU) on September 2 could embarrass the Wilson government if significant protest demonstrations materialize.

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Thus far critical press coverage of the Palestinian presence at the IPU meeting has not reached the proportions achieved prior to and during the visit of one-time KGB chief Alexander Sholepin earlier this year. Nor have there been any indications that similar angry protests will occur.

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Belgian Proposals Peril US Munitions Shipments

Shipments of US and NATO munitions will be sharply restricted under new regulations proposed by authorities at the Belgian port of Zeebrugge. These regulations, limiting both the amounts of munitions and number of munitions ships allowed in the harbor at one time, are scheduled to go into effect November 25.

Zeebrugge port authorities initiated the proposals, apparently as a result of local political disputes; there has been no comment from the Belgian foreign ministry. If US efforts are unsuccessful at the local level in preventing implementation of the regulations, the embassy has indicated it will appeal to the Belgian government to intervene.

Zeebrugge, the only major Belgian port directly on the coast, has handled all US munitions shipments to and from Europe except for a few in early 1973. Nordenham, in West Germany, could be used as an alternative port, but is viewed as a poor substitute.



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